

**CENTRAL PUGET SOUND FREEWAY HOV LANES VARIABLE HOURS
OF OPERATION EVALUATION**

BRIEFING PAPER

Prepared for the
August 2002 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

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PURPOSE:

Update the Commission on the Central Puget Sound Freeway HOV Lanes Variable Hours of Operations Evaluation.

ACTION/OUTCOME:

Brief the Commission on study progress and provide final two chapters of HOV Evaluation Notebook. These chapters cover environmental undertakings and facility design and operational limitations. The Commission will also be briefed on revisions to the study schedule and work plan.

BACKGROUND:

In February 2002, the Secretary and the Commissioners received a letter from the House Transportation Committee asking them to explore our policies on hours of operation for HOV lanes on central Puget Sound region freeways.

At its March meeting the Commission endorsed the work plan for conducting the evaluation.

At the May meeting the department reported on data collection and analysis activities and communication tools designed to assist the public with understanding the evaluation process and provide input on the study.

At the June meeting the department reported on work in progress, including the completion of the Public Attitudes and Opinions chapter and drafting of the Transit and Vanpool HOV Lane Use chapter. The draft change options tool was also reviewed.

DISCUSSION:

At the August meeting, staff is expected to complete the initial analytic aspects of the analysis by presenting environmental undertakings and facility design and operational limitation data. Staff will also discuss the change options tool required by the work plan. The desired outcome includes reaching the point of completion of work program elements, which serve as the basis for soliciting public and stakeholder comments. A recommendation for Commission approval will be presented at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None required at this time.

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